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Award Number: DAMD17-02-1-0696

TITLE: Quantitative Mechanistic Modeling of Sublingual PCO2 as

an Index of Shock Severity and Resuscitation Success

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REPORT DATE: September 2004

TYPE OF REPORT: Final

PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command

Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT: Approved for Public Release;

Distribution Unlimited

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved OMB No. 074-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing this collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503

1. AGENCY USE ONLY	2. REPORT DATE	3. REPORT TYPE AND	DATES COVERED
(Leave blank)	September 2004	Final (15 Aug	02 - 14 Aug 04)
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Quantitative Mechanistic	Modeling of Sublingu	al PCO2 as	5. FUNDING NUMBERS DAMD17-02-1-0696
an Index of Shock Severi	-		
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6. AUTHOR(S)			
Max Harry Weil, M.D., Ph	.D.		
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7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAM The Institute of Critica			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER
Palm Springs, California			NEI ON MONDEN
Parm Springs, Carrioinia	92202		
E-Mail: ICCM@911research.	org		
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING			10. SPONSORING / MONITORING
AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS	•		AGENCY REPORT NUMBER
U.S. Army Medical Resear		nd	
Fort Detrick, Maryland	21702-5012		
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES			
12a DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY S	TATEMENT		12h DISTRIBUTION CODE

13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 Words)

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The goal of our study for the first year was to investigate whether the changes in sublingual PCO2 reflect changes in tissue blood flow during hemorrhage and hemorrhagic shock. Hemorrhagic shock was induced by a modification of Wigger's method in male domestic pigs weighting 35 to 40 kg. Sublingual Pco₂ increased from 60 to 129 mmHg in parallel with average decreases in cardiac output to 44% and mean arterial pressure to 47%, decreases in EtCO₂ from 35 to 28 mmHg together with increases in arterial blood lactate concentrations from 0.7 to 7.8 mmol/l over the two-hour interval of shock. Utilizing colored microspheres for measurements, sublingual blood flow decreased to 34%, liver flow to 56%, and renal flow to 47%. After reinfusion of shed blood, sublingual PCO₂ was restored to approximately baseline values together with arterial pressure, cardiac output and EtCO2, but there was delayed reversal of lactic acidosis. Increases in sublingual Pco2, is accompanied by proportionate decreases in sublingual and vital organ blood flows. Our study supports the rationale for non-invasive measurements of sublingual PCO₂ for diagnosis and quantitation of the severity of hemorrhagic shock. The goal of our task for the second year was to investigate the possibility that buccal PCO2 provided an additional option as a site of measurement that would facilitate longer term non-invasive monitoring of tissue perfusion. Two groups of pentobarbital anesthetized Sprague-Dawley male rats were bled 40 percent of their estimated blood volume over an interval of 30 minutes. The animals were randomly assigned to measurement of either sublingual or buccal PCO2 with an optical PCO2 sensor. A linear regression analysis between $P_{BU}CO_2$ and $P_{SL}CO_2$ yielded r = 0.94. Buccal PCO2 measurement provides values correlated highly with those of sublingual measurement for the diagnosis and evaluation of the severity of circulatory failure and facilitates continuous recording.

	14. SUBJECT TERMS			15. NUMBER OF PAGES
	Quantitative Mechanist	ic Modeling of Subling	ual PCO2 as an Index of	19
	Shock Severity and Res	suscitation Success		16. PRICE CODE
	17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT
ı	Unclassified	Unclassified	Unclassified	Unlimited

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INTRODUCTION

Increases in tissue PCO₂ are associated with decreases in oxygen availability and utilization by vital cells (Johnson & Weil, 1991). Hydrogen ions are anaerobically generated as byproducts of lactic acid and from hydrolysis of adenosine triphosphate and adenosine biphosphate (Johnson & Weil, 1991). When the hydrogen ions are buffered by intracellular HCO₃, CO₂ is generated. The high diffusability of CO₂ facilitates surface measurements of tissue PCO₂ (Gutierrez, 1992). The early clinical focus was on the gastric wall utilizing gastric tonometry. The rationale was based on the assumption that the viscera and especially the stomach, liver, and intestines were the earliest organs that reflected critical decreases in blood flow during hemorrhagic shock states (Dantzker, 1991; Chendrasekhar, 1996; Kivilaakso, 1982; Maynard, 1993; Reilly 1992).

In settings of critical low-flow states of circulatory shock, the carbon dioxide tensions (PCO₂) of the stomach wall, the liver parenchyma, the kidneys, the myocardium and the cerebral cortex were increased early. Tissue hypercarbia was promptly reversed after restoration of normal blood flow (Desai, 1993, 1995; Johnson, 1995; Kette, 1993; Tang,). Studies also by our group subsequently demonstrated that esophageal wall PCO₂ and sublingual PCO₂ measurements yielded values comparable to those of gastric PCO₂ for estimation of the severity of circulatory shock (Sato, 1997).

Since hypercarbia was equally profound in the intra-abdominal viscera and the extra-abdominal sites in settings of circulatory shock (Sato, 1997), we were alerted to the likelihood that tissue hypercarbia was a general phenomenon of perfusion failure. This challenged the established assumption that the intra-abdominal organs were early and selective target organs (Fiddian-Green, 1987). Sublingual PCO₂ became a practical noninvasive option for monitoring PCO₂ in lieu of gastric tonometry (Jin, 1998; Nakagawa, 1998; Weil, 1999; Povoas, 2001). We then demonstrated comparable reductions in blood flow to the gastric wall and to the jejunum, colon, kidneys, and to the tongue and sublingual mucosa in rats during hemorrhagic shock. These findings provided evidence that tissue hypercarbia was a general rather then a primary visceral phenomenon of perfusion failure and explained proportionately comparable reductions in tissue blood flow at intra-abdominal and extra-abdominal sites of measurement (Jin, 1998).

This final report represents the work to date of our award DAMD17-02-1-06. Our goal was to confirm two hypotheses: (1) changes in sublingual PCO2 reflect changes in vital organ blood flow during low flow states of hemorrhage and hemorrhagic shock. (2) severity of tissue hypoperfusion would also be reliably quantitated by measurement of buccal PCO2.

STUDY PERFORMED DURING YEAR 1

The study was approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee of the Institute of Critical Care Medicine. All animals received humane care in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act Regulations and other Federal statutes relating to animals and experiments involving animals. The Institute adheres to the principles set forth in the Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, National Research Council, 1996.

Animal preparation. Ten healthy male Yorkshire-X domestic pigs (Sus scrofa) aged 5-6 months, weighing between 35 and 40 kg, were supplied by a single source breeder who has consistently supplied healthy animals of relatively uniform age and weight. All animals were fasted overnight except for free access to water. Anesthesia was initiated by intramuscular injection of 20 mg/kg of ketamine and completed by ear vein injection of 30 mg/kg sodium pentobarbital. Additional doses of 8

mg/kg sodium pentobarbital were administered by bolus intravenous injections at intervals of approximately one hror when required to maintain anesthesia. A cuffed endotracheal tube was advanced into the trachea with the aid of direct laryngoscopy. Animals were mechanically ventilated with a tidal volume of 15 ml/kg, a peak flow of 40 l/min and FiO₂ of 0.21 with a volume-controlled ventilator (Model MA-1, Puritan-Bennett, Carlsbad, CA). End-tidal PCO₂ (EtCO₂) was measured with an infrared main stream analyzer (Model O1R-7101A, Nihon Kohden Corp, Tokyo, Japan). Respiratory frequency was adjusted to maintain EtCO₂ between 35 and 40 mmHg. The conventional frontal plane electrocardiogram was continuously recorded.

For measurement of aortic pressure, a fluid-filled 8F angiographic catheter (Model 6523; USCI, C.R. Bart Inc., Billerica, MA) was inserted into the surgically exposed left femoral artery and advanced into the descending thoracic aorta. For the measurements of right atrial pressure and for measurements of cardiac output by the thermodilution method, together with measurement of core (blood) temperature, a 7F pentalumen, thermodilution-tipped catheter (Abbott Critical Care #41216, Salt Lake City, Utah) was advanced from the surgically exposed right femoral vein and flow-directed into the pulmonary artery. For injection of colored microspheres, a 5F angiographic catheter (Model AR2, Boston Scientific Scimed Inc., Maple Grove, MN) was advanced from the left carotid artery to the left ventricle. A 14F cannula (William Harvey model 1848 USCI; CR Bart Inc; Billerica, MA) was advanced into the abdominal aorta through the right femoral artery for bleeding. Another 14F cannula was inserted into the right femoral vein for the reinfusion of shed blood. The position of the catheters was confirmed by both characteristic pressure-pulse morphology and with the aid of fluoroscopy. All catheters were flushed periodically with physiologic salt solution containing 10 IU/ml of bovine heparin. The right femoral artery cannula was connected to a 2-liter sterile reservoir for bleeding and reinfusion, and continuously measured in the pulmonary artery. Blood temperature was maintained at 37 ± 0.5 C utilizing infrared surface heating lamps.

For the measurement of $PslCO_2$ we utilized an optical CO_2 sensor (Capnoprobe, Model 2000, OSI, Minneapolis, MN). The sensor was calibrated in a water-filled tonometer maintained at 34.5 C \pm 0.5 C. For calibration, gas mixtures of 5% and 20% CO_2 in nitrogen allowed for two- point calibration. The sensor was applied under direct vision to the mucosa of the right sublingual space of the pig.

Experimental procedure. Baseline measurements were obtained prior to randomization to the hemorrhage or sham-hemorrhage control group by the sealed envelope method. Hemorrhagic shock was induced by a modification of the Wigger's method. Blood was aseptically collected through preheparinized catheters and delivered to a sterile 2-liter reservoir containing 4,000 IU heparin. The blood was shed at a rate of approximately 20 ml/min and manually agitated over an interval of over 60 min until the mean arterial pressure was reduced to 55 ± 5 mmHg. The pressure in the reservoir was adjusted to maintain arterial pressure at 55 mm Hg for an additional 60 min. After 2 h, the blood was reinfused at a rate of 100 ml/min with the aid of an infusion pump over an average interval of 14 min. At 2 hr after reinfusion of the shed blood, animals were euthanized with an intravenous injection of 150 mg/kg of pentobarbital. Autopsy was routinely performed to confirm catheter positions, to exclude injuries to the thoracic and abdominal organs, and to exclude coincident disease. For control animals, the procedure was identical except that no blood was allowed to flow from the femoral artery catheter into the reservoir.

Organ blood flow was measured with an adaptation of the colored-microsphere technique as previously reported (Hale, 1988; Jin, 1998). An estimated 5 x 10^6 microspheres, with a mean diameter of 15 ± 2 μ m, colored with red, green, blue, and orange (E-Z TRAC, Los Angeles, CA) were suspended in 5 ml of normal saline and agitated with a vortex mixer (37600 mixer, Thermolyne, Dubuque, IA). The

suspensions were manually injected into the left ventricle over an interval of 15 sec. Beginning 30 sec prior to the injection of microspheres, blood was withdrawn with the aid of a peristaltic pump of our own design at a rate of 6 ml/min. Measurements were obtained prior to hemorrhage (baseline) and, at 60 and 120 min during hemorrhagic shock and at 120 min after reinfusion of shed blood. At autopsy, tissue was sampled in amounts estimated to yield statistically appropriate concentrations of microspheres, namely samples of 3 to 13 grams of tissue from the sublingual site of PCO₂ measurement. the buccal mucosa, the diaphragmatic surface of the right lobe of the liver, the anterior wall of the left ventricle and the mid cortex of both kidneys. The tissue was weighed and then digested overnight with the E-Z TRAC digestive reagent I, at a temperature of 60°C. The suspension was then delivered to 15 ml centrifuge tubes and centrifuged at 3,000 rpm for 30 min (Marathon 21K, Fischer Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA). The sediment containing the microspheres was resuspended in the E-Z TRAC digestive reagent II and recentrifuged for 15 min. The sediment was again suspended but this time in the E-Z TRAC counting reagent. The suspension was then transferred to a glass tube of known weight and again centrifuged for 15 min. The sediment was then suspended in the counting reagent and reconstituted to a volume of between 150 and 350 µl. The weight of the tube was then measured with an optical balance (Magnigrad, Type 21, Ainsworth & Sins, Denver, CO). Aliquots of this suspension were delivered to an improved Neubauer hemocytometer chamber for counting. The same procedures were utilized on the blood which had been withdrawn from the aorta prior to and during injection of the microspheres.

Measurements. Dynamic data, including aortic, right atrial, pulmonary artery and pulmonary occlusive pressures, EtCO₂, and lead II of the electrocardiogram were continuously measured and recorded on PC-based data acquisition system, supported by CODAS hardware/software (DATAQ Instruments, Akron, OH) as previously described (28). A total of 16 channels were provided for continuous recording at appropriate sampling frequencies for the proposed study. Cardiac output was measured by the conventional thermodilution method after injection of 5 ml of physiological salt solution at a temperature of < 3°C, utilizing a cardiac output computer (Model 3300; Abbott Critical Care Systems). Measurements were obtained at baseline and at intervals of 30 min after start of hemorrhage. Aortic and mixed venous blood gases, hemoglobin and oxyhemoglobin together with blood lactate, were measured on samples of 400 μl of blood utilizing a blood gas analyzer (Model Stat Profile Ultra C, Nova Biomedical Corporation, Waltham, MA). Arterial blood lactate was measured on 200 μl aliquot with a lactic analyzer (Model 23L, Yellow Springs Instruments, Yellow Springs, OH). These measurements were obtained at baseline and at hourly intervals for a total of 4 h. Organ blood flow was computed, as follows:

$$Q_o (ml \cdot min^{-l}) = \underbrace{C_{To} \cdot Q_{bw}}_{C_{Tb}}$$

In which Q_0 represents organ blood flow, C_{TO} total numbers of microspheres in the organ sample, Q_{bw} amount of withdrawn blood from the abdominal aorta (ml·min⁻¹), and C_{Tb} is the total number of microspheres in the blood withdrawn. Organ blood flow (Q_{ow}) per 100 g of tissue was calculated as follows:

$$Q_{ow} (ml \cdot min^{-1}) = \underbrace{Q_o \cdot 100}_{\text{sample weight (g)}}$$

Statistical analyses. For measurements between groups, ANOVA and Scheffe's multicomparison techniques were used. Comparisons between time-based measurements within each group were performed with ANOVA repeated measurements. Measurements were reported as means \pm SD. A value of p < 0.05 was considered significant.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OUTCOMES

There were no differences in baseline hemodynamic, blood gas, blood lactate, or end-tidal PCO₂ measurements between the control sham hemorrhage and hemorrhagic shock groups, nor in the computed blood flow to tissues in the sham hemorrhage control group over the interval of study (Table1 and Fig. 1). PslCO₂ in the hemorrhagic shock group increased from 61 to 129 mmHg during hemorrhage, buccal PCO₂ increased from 56 to 116 mmHg, mean arterial pressure (MAP) decreased from an average of 115 to 57 mmHg, and cardiac output (CO) from 6.1 to 2.8 L·min⁻¹. Reinfusion of shed blood restored MAP and, excepting a transient overshoot, the cardiac output, to near-baseline levels. Arterial blood lactate concentrations increased from 0.7 to 7.8 mmol/l, but failed to return to baseline values at the end of 4 hr(Fig. 2).

Following hemorrhage, the sublingual tissue blood flow decreased to 31%, the buccal mucosa blood flow to 29%, the liver blood flow to 47% and the kidney blood flows to between 43 to 49% of baseline values (Table 1 and Fig. 1). This contrasted with myocardial flow during hemorrhagic shock which was reduced to only 71% of baseline values. Increases in $PslCO_2$ were highly correlated with decreases in sublingual blood flow (r = 0.78), buccal mucosa blood flow (r = 0.82), liver blood flow (r = 0.66) and renal blood flow (r = 0.72) (Fig. 3). As anticipated, no significant differences between right and left kidneys were observed. Significantly greater blood flow was maintained in the heart in comparison to more profound reductions in the sublingual and buccal sites (p<0.01) and to the kidneys (p<0.05) (Table 2). At two hr after reinfusion of shed blood, both tissue $PslCO_2$ and organ blood flows had returned to approximately baseline, preshock values (Fig. 1).

CONCLUSION

We conclude that increases in sublingual PCO₂ are explained by proportional decreases in blood flows not only in the viscera but at more accessible sites in the mouth. The rationale for technically simple and non-invasive measurements indicative of the onset and severity of hemorrhagic shock utilizing the oral mucosa is therefore further secured. The present studies provide further evidence that changes in sublingual PCO₂ during hemorrhagic shock reflects change in vital organ blood flow.

STUDY PERFORMED DURING YEAR 2

The study was again approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee of the Institute of Critical Care Medicine. All animals received humane care in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act Regulations and other Federal statutes relating to animals and experiments involving animals. The Institute adheres to the principles set forth in the Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, National Research Council, 1996.

METHODS

Two groups of male Sprague-Dawley rats, each weighing 450-550 g, were investigated. Food was withheld for 12 hours but the rats had free access to water prior to study. Animals were anesthetized by

intraperitoneal injection of pentobarbital 45mg kg⁻¹ and placed on a surgical board in the supine position. Additional doses of 10mg/kg were administrated as required to maintain the anesthesia. The trachea was orally intubated with a 14 G cannula mounted on a blunt needle with a 1450 angled tip. End-tidal CO2 was continuously monitored with a side-stream infrared CO2 analyzer (End-Til IL 200; Instrument Laboratory, Lexington, MA). The left femoral artery and vein were isolated and cannulated with polyethylene catheters (PE 50). The catheters were aseptically advanced into the abdominal aorta and into the inferior yena cava respectively. The femoral vein catheter was used for the maintenance of anesthesia. The femoral artery catheter was connected with a high-sensitivity pressure transducer (model 42584-01; Abbott Critical Care System) for pressure measurement. Data were recorded over an interval of 30 minutes after completion of bleeding. The right femoral artery was cannulated with polyethylene catheters (PE 50) and connected to a peristaltic pump (Autoinfusor, ICCM Palm Springs, CA) for withdrawal of 40% of the estimated blood volume over an interval of 30 minutes. A conventional ECG lead II was continuously monitored. Tissue PCO2 was continuously measured with a miniature carbon dioxide tissue electrode (MI-720 CO2 electrode; Microelectrodes, Londonderry, NH) which was placed on the surface of either the left sublingual or the left buccal mucosa with the aid of a "doughnut" designed by us (Fig. 4). The sensor was calibrated in a water-filled tonometer maintained at 37⁰ C. A mixture of nitrogen and either 5% or 20% CO2 gas (Air Liquide, Etiwanda, CA) was bubbled though the water. A thermocouple microprobe provided with the sensor was advanced into the mouth of the animals. Body temperature was measured with this sensor. For the entire duration of the experiment the body temperature was maintained between 37±0.5 C⁰ with the aid of a heating lamp. Neither mechanical ventilation nor fluid reinfusion was performed in this study. At the end of the experiment survival animals were allowed to recover from anesthesia and all the catheters were removed. Animals were then returned to their cages and survival time was subsequently recorded. Autopsy was routinely performed for gross documentation of injuries to the thoracic and abdominal vessels and viscera to identify injuries caused by surgical intervention.

Statistical Analyses. For measurements between groups, ANOVA and Scheffe's multicomparision techniques were employed. Comparisons between time-based measurements within each group were performed with ANOVA repeated measurement. Categorical variables were analyzed with Fisher exact test. Measurements are reported as mean \pm SD. Values of p<0.05 were considered significant.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OUTCOMES

Baseline hemodynamic values did not differ among the animals chosen for this study. During the 30 minutes of bleeding, mean arterial pressure decreased from 135±5 to 25±3 mmHg, end tidal CO2 decreased from 40±1 to 15±2 mmHg, buccal PCO2 increased from 48±2 to 86±6 mmHg, and sublingual PCO2 increased from 49±2 to 84±6 mmHg. After the end of bleeding, both mean arterial pressure and ETCO2 continued to decrease until death, achieved with pulsless electric activity (PEA) preceded by gasping. PEA was achieved when buccal PCO2 value was 105±2 mmHg and sublingual PCO2 was 108±5 mmHg. One animal in the buccal PCO2 group and two animals in the sublingual group survived for the entire duration of the experiment, and all the others died approximately 20 minutes after cessation of bleeding. Survival time was 0.4±0.33 hours in the buccal PCO2 group versus 0.49±0.28 hours in the sublingual PCO2 group, resulting in no statistically significant difference between the groups. No difference was found in ETCO2, mean arterial pressure, or between buccal and sublingual PCO2. A linear regression analysis between P_{BU}CO2 and P_{SL}CO2 yielded r = 0.94 (p<0.0001) (Fig. 5). Although measurements were not performed simultaneously, we utilized an adaptation of the Bland-Altman analysis to provide additional evidence of the interchangeability of the value recorded for the buccal mucosa versus the sublingual space (Fig. 6).

CONCLUSION

Based on our experimental studies, buccal mucosa as well as sublingual mucosa are now established as appropriate sites for measurement of PCO2. Access to the buccal mucosa with the new round rubber prototype provides an additional practical option for continuous non-invasive monitoring of tissue PCO2 during hemorrhagic shock states.

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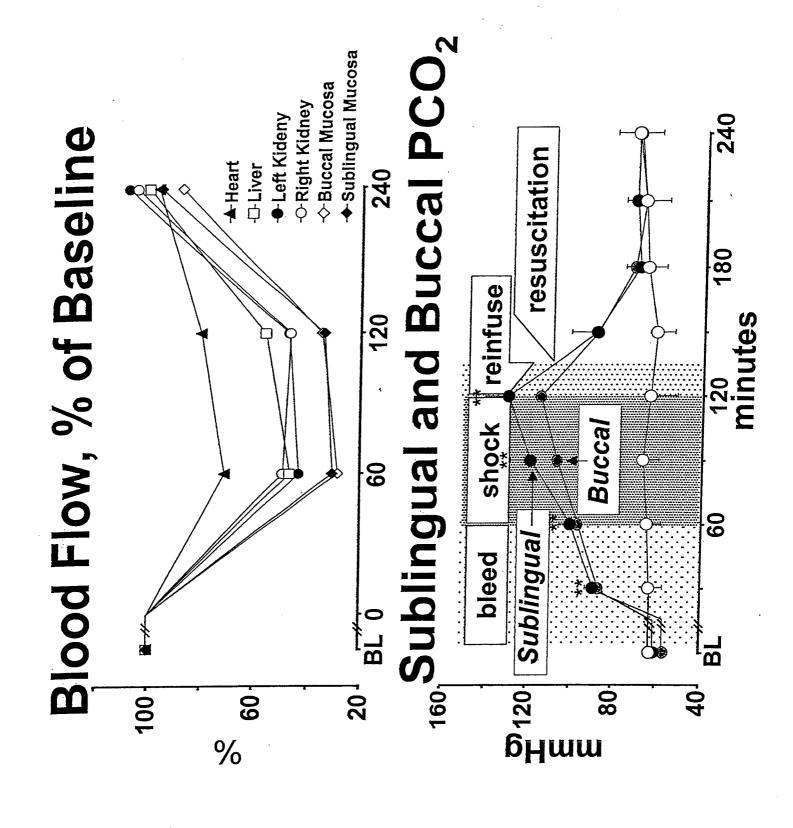
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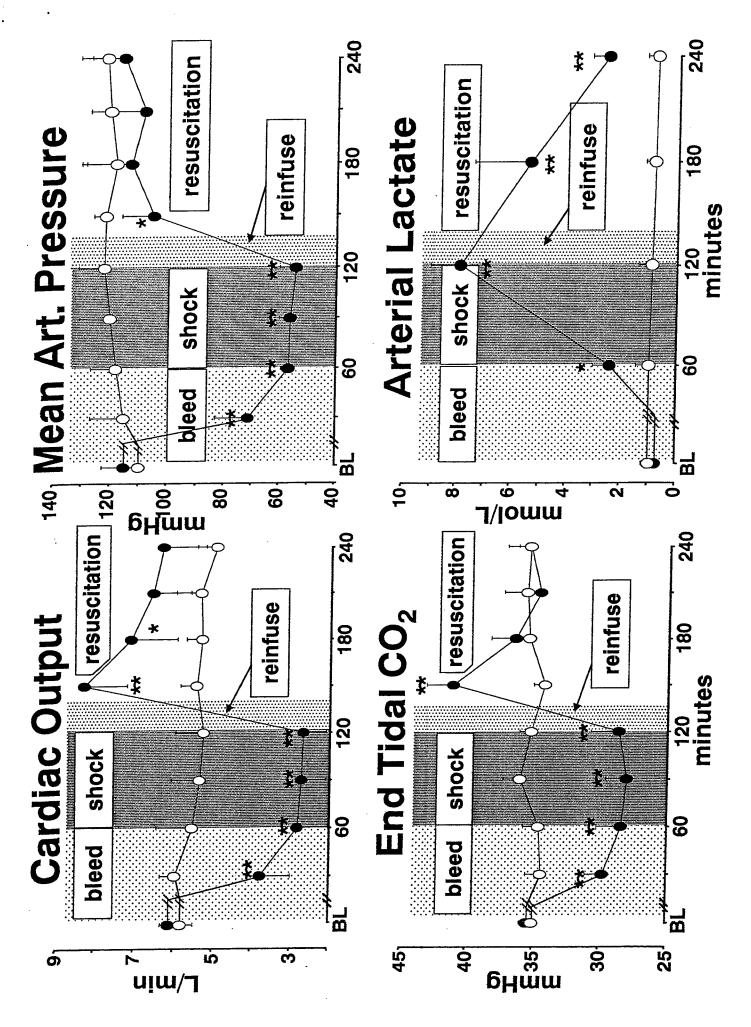
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FIGURE LEGENDS

- Figure 1: Comparisons of values of blood flow in various tissues, together with time coincident increases and decreases in sublingual and buccal mucosal PCO₂. BL= baseline, ** P<0.01 vs. baseline.
- Figure 2: Changes in the measured values of cardiac output, mean arterial pressure, end-tidal CO_2 , and arterial blood lactate prior to, during, and after reversal of hemorrhagic shock. BL= baseline; *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01 vs. control.
- Figure 3: Relationships among the measured values of sublingual PCO₂ and concurrent measurement of blood flows to the kidneys, the liver, and the buccal and sublingual mucosa. The right kidney is represented by open circles and the left kidney by closed circles.
- Figure 4: Tissue PCO₂ was continuously measured with a miniature carbon dioxide tissue electrode which was placed on the surface of the left buccal mucosa with the aid of a "doughnut" designed by us.
- Figure 5: A linear regression analysis between P_{BU}CO₂ and P_{SL}CO₂.
- Figure 6: Bland-Altman analysis of buccal mucosa and the sublingual mucosa PCO2 measurements.





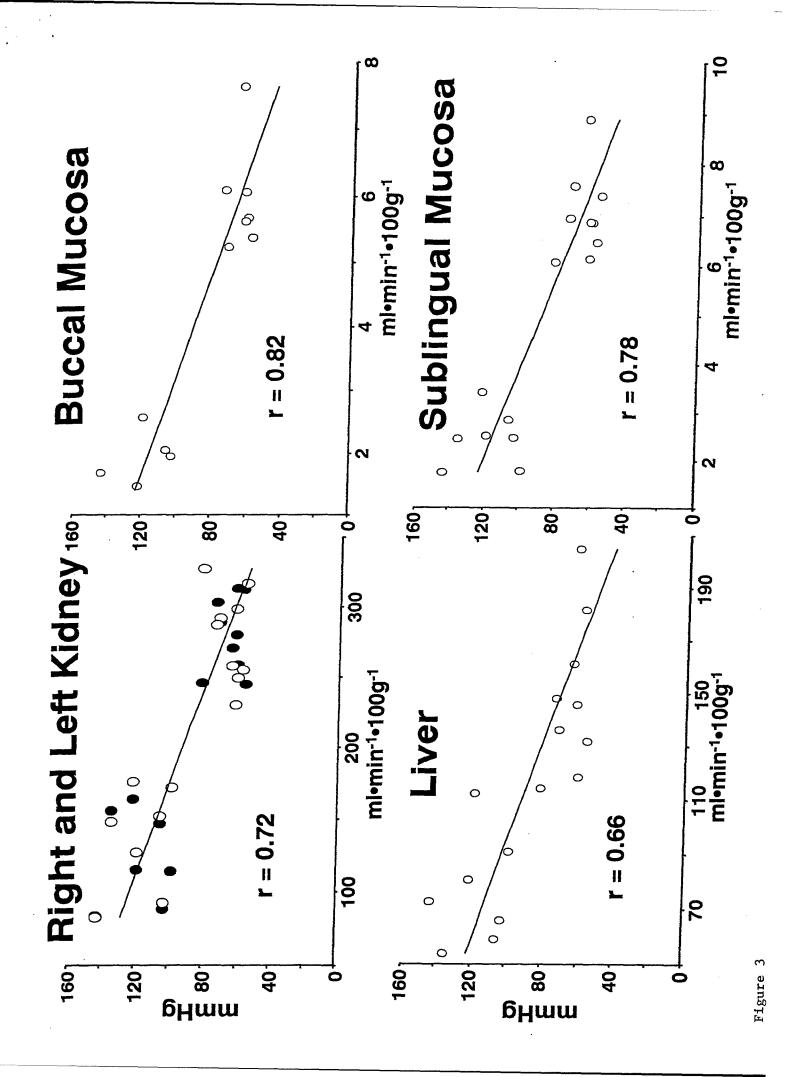


Table 1: Tissue Blood Flows

		Baseline	09	60 min	120	120 min	240	240 min
Tissue	Group	ml/min/100g	ml/min/100g	%Baseline	ml/min/100g	%Baseline	ml/min/100g	%Baseline
Sublingual	Hemorrhage	7.2±1	$2.2 \pm 0.5^{\dagger}$	31 ± 6	$2.5\pm0.6^{\dagger}$	34 ± 7	6.9 ± 0.6	95 ± 7
,	Sham	7.8 ± 1.3	7.1 ± 1.0	91 ± 11	6.9 ± 1.0	89 ± 12	7.0 ± 0.8	91 ± 10
Buccal	Hemorrhage	6.3 ± 0.9	1.8 ± 0.4 [†]	29 ± 5	$2.2 \pm 0.7^{\dagger}$	35 ± 10	5.5 ± 0.4	87 ± 6
	Sham	5.6 ± 0.5	5.7 ± 0.5	102 ± 8	5.3 ± 0.6	94 ± 10	5.8 ± 0.3	+1
Liver	Hemorrhage	152 ± 33	71 ± 14 [†]	47 ± 7	85 ± 24 [†]	56±13	152 ± 29	100 ± 15
	Sham	154 ± 21	148 ± 24	96 ± 14	158 ± 24	103 ± 14	148 ± 12	2 + 96
Heart	Hemorrhage	180 ± 16	128 ± 24*	71 ± 12	144 ± 13*	80 + 6	173 ± 30	96 + 15
	Sham	167 ± 25	171 ± 22	103 ± 11	174 ± 24	104 ± 12	164 ± 29	1 +1
Left Kidney	Hemorrhage	274 ± 26	118 ± 24 [†]	43 ± 8	130 ± 32 [†]	48 ± 11	294 ± 30	108 + 10
	Sham	274 ± 26	265 ± 29	99 ± 10	286 ± 34	108 ± 13	265 ± 18	100 ± 6
Right Kidne	Hight Kidney	271 ± 36	134 ± 35 [†]	49 ± 12	127 ± 37 [†]	47 ± 12	282 ± 32	104 ± 10
	Sham	284 ± 20	259 ± 21	91±7	285 ± 35	101 ± 12	272 ± 41	96 ± 13
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Values are means \pm SD, significant difference from control in same tissue, * P <0.05; \uparrow P < 0.01.

Table 2: Tissue Blood Flows, % of Baseline. Comparison between tissues.

Tissue	Group	60 min	120 min	240 min
Heart	Hemorrhage	71 ± 12	. 9 ∓ 08	96 ± 15
Sublingual	Hemorrhage	31 ± 6 [†]	34 ± 7†	95 ± 7
Buccal	Hemorrhage	29 ± 5†	35 ± 10 [†]	87 ± 6
Left Kidney	Hemorrhage	43 ± 8 *	48 ± 11 [†]	108 ± 10
Right Kidney	Hemorrhage	49 ± 12*	47 ± 12 *	104 ± 10

Values are means \pm SD, significant difference from heart tissue, * P <0.05; † P < 0.01.

Bucal mucosa Application...

